

Notice of Exemption

2020070145

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research **From:** (Public Agency): Modoc Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 221 West 8th Street Alturas, CA 96101
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

(Address)

County of: Modoc108 E. Modoc StreetAlturas, CA 96101Project Title: California Pines Fuel Break Project (Maintenance Section)Project Applicant: Modoc Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:

Project is located 18 miles Southwest of the city of Alturas and south of Centerville Road (County Road 54).

Legal location is T.40 N., R.10 E., portions of sections 10, 11, 14, 22, 23, 26 and 36.

Project Location - City: N/A Project Location - County: Modoc

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Proposed Action: This forest fuels reduction project will occur along a roadway approximately 18 miles southwest of Alturas, CA and is in the community of California Pines. The project is a roadside fuel reduction along approximately 5.15 miles of dirt Roadway, involving an area of approximately 125 acres. The goal of this project is to eliminate hazardous fuel loading that may pose a threat to the California Pines Community and help reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Vegetation treatment in the form of hand-thinning using chain saws, chipping, and mastication will be used within 100 feet on each side of the permanent un-paved road. Cal Fire and contractor crews will thin trees to a minimum of 10'x 10' spacing while targeting larger trees for retention. Small trees; shrubs; and other surface fuels will be pruned to eliminate ladder fuels and general fuel buildup. Material generated by this fuel reduction treatment will be processed using a variety of practices including a 14" chipper, pile burning, and mastication.

The nature of the project is the construction of shaded fuel break using hand crews to reduce vegetative cover by pruning and thinning. The purpose of this project is to reduce ladder fuels to aid fire suppression activities in the event of a wildfire in the area. The primary beneficiaries of this project are the landowners living in the residential wildland interface zone and the local fire suppression agencies.

Analysis to support this exemption include archaeological records check and additional survey along with CNDDDB check. Project layout includes avoidance of identified sensitive habitats, historical and pre-historical sites. Informal consultation with local agencies, organizations and tribes was completed.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Modoc Resource Conservation DistrictName of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Modoc Fire Safe CouncilExempt Status: **(check one):**☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));☒ **Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:** Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (i) Fuel management activities"☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

An environmental review determined that the above-mentioned project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The project will not result in the loss of special status species, archaeological or historical sites and will not have a significant impact scenic areas or trees.

This exemption is based on the following: Section 15301 Class 1 Existing Facilities consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The types of "existing facilities" itemized below are not intended to be all-inclusive of the types of projects which might fall within Class 1. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use. minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. Example includes, but is not limited to:

15301. EXISTING FACILITIES (h) Maintenance of existing landscaping, native growth, and water supply reservoirs (excluding the use of pesticides, as defined in Section 12753, Division 7, Chapter 2, Food and Agricultural Code);
Maintance of community shaded fuel breaks are other projects that have been included under 15301.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Richard L. Westman Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530)233-4314 ext.115

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ___ Yes ___ No

Signature:  Date: 7/2/2020 Title: Vice President MRCD

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Jul 07 2020

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

120° 49' 00.0000" W 120° 48' 00.0000" W 120° 47' 00.0000" W 120° 46' 00.0000" W

California Pines Fuel Reduction Project (Maintenance Section)

